

THE ROCK

March 2026

RAIDERS REPORT!

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INTEGRITY, RESPECT & EFFORT

State Basketball Concludes

by Isabela Hurtado

The Rimrock High School boys basketball team had a strong and successful season this year. The team earned a spot in the state tournament, and twelve players traveled to compete against some of the best basketball teams in the state. Making it to the state tournament showed how much effort the team put in throughout the entire season. The support they received from their school, families, and the community is greatly appreciated.

Several players received special recognition for their performances during the season. Hays Black earned First Team for All Conference. Liam Aquiso had an outstanding season and was named Honorable Mention. Additionally, he received another impressive honor when he was selected to the Idaho Boys Basketball All Tournament Third Team. Morgan Field was also recognized with Honorable Mention and was named a Senior All Star for his Conference play.

The Rimrock girls basketball team also had a strong season and finished the year with several achievements. Many players were recognized for their talent and hard work. Ruby Lisle received Second Team Conference Honorable Mention honors for her performance. Laine Raymond earned Honorable Mention, showing her strong contribution to the team. Paisley Prow also received Honorable Mention and was named a Senior All Star showcasing her leadership and dedication.

Overall, both the Rimrock boys and girls basketball teams had great seasons. The boys' team showed incredible effort by making it to the state tournament, and the girls team finished the season with several honors. The school and community are very proud of the Raider teams for everything they achieved this season!



High School Basketball boys lined up in front of bus about to take off for their state games.

A Note from the Superintendent

To the Bruneau-Grand View School District Community,

"I want to extend my sincere gratitude to the residents of Oreana, Grand View, and Bruneau for the warm welcome and active participation during our recent community outreach meetings. Listening to your voices is my highest priority as we work together to shape the future of our district.

These meetings provided an invaluable opportunity for us to connect personally. I am eager to continue learning about the unique qualities of each of our communities, and I am grateful for the honest questions and thoughtful insights you shared regarding our schools. Our goal is to bridge the gap between district operations and the community, ensuring we provide a high-quality education while serving as transparent, reliable partners to our families.

As we move forward, our focus remains on 'Celebrations of Success' and deepening community involvement. I invite you to continue this journey with us by attending our monthly board meetings—where you can see our student presentations firsthand—or by reaching out directly to share your thoughts.

Your dedication to our students is the most vital ingredient in our recipe for success. I look forward to our continued collaboration."

Sincerely,
Dr. Ken Higbee

FFA Floral Event

by Jeannie Trader

Rimrock's FFA chapter went to a Floral Career Development event in Kuna on February 25. Our chapter members, Jessica Escobedo, Bryllie Mendoza, and Kenzley Fowers all competed by making different flower arrangements, building corsages, and identifying different plants. The event is based on six different categories of competition: Keep and Cull, General Knowledge, Problem Solving, Plant ID, Building a floral arrangement, and lastly building a corsage. Thank you Rimrock FFA for your hard work!



Bryllie Mendoza and Jessica Escobedo with their competition piece

Mrs. Pearson: Counseling in a Small Town

by Merary Rodriguez

Mrs. Pearson's job as our school counselor at Rimrock is a combination of many tasks, entailing things such as scheduling, college and career completion, scholarships, FAFSA, PSAT and SAT testing, and helping students with mental health concerns. Mrs. Pearson's engagement with the students in our district over the years as an elementary teacher in multiple grades, a PE teacher, and an art teacher is what had motivated her to take on the role as counselor. These positions helped her be prepared for when the position came open.

To become a counselor, Mrs. Pearson has taken eleven classes, and has only six more until she accomplishes her master's degree. She never envisioned getting so far, and her success so far has made her feel even more convicted to continue.

Mrs. Pearson's connection with her students is what pushed her to go through the counseling process. To become a counselor, she started with a bachelor's degree in education or social work, and went on to a masters in School counseling. The program also requires applications like practicum, supervised experience, and internships.

Getting to work and interact with the students one on one, learning about their personalities, and being able to make them feel comfortable and accepted is what Mrs. Pearson feels is her favorite part of working at Rimrock as our counselor. She believes it helps build the kind of community that helps fill in the gaps created by being rural.

It is difficult to access help for students like therapy, mental-health centers, and specialists. Mrs. Pearson shared how this is the biggest challenge because mental health services are needed in our youth more than ever, and a counselor or counseling services are truly needed in rural areas. Stress, family, social, and academic struggles make students feel isolated. Mrs. Pearson states, "Mental health support is more important than ever," and she truly believes that.

Veteran Spotlight

by Mariel Juarez

Donald Collins, longtime Bruneau resident, was enlisted for six years in the United States Army Active Reserve through 1960-1966. He was discharged in October, 1966, as a Sergeant E6. His contributions to the country were being a Military Occupation Specialist, Training Platoon Sergeant, and a LVT Tank Commander. Don joined the military because it provided a path of independence from his foster home and high school. Through his military experience Don feels he learned self respect and motivation, and he learned to not be selfish or self centered. He gained confidence and built integrity and responsibility. He learned to interact with others, organize, live, budget, and to succeed on his own.

In 1961, Donald moved to Mountain Home, Idaho, after basic training. He was site employed at the American Machine & Foundry Company at the missile base construction, near Bruneau, Idaho. Then he married in February of 1962, and moved to Seattle, Washington, where he worked at Kenworth Motor Truck Company and attended Highline Junior College. Later on, he moved to Reno, Nevada, and went to the University of Nevada where he got a bachelor's degree in Science and started to teach art for junior high students. That inspired him to go back to college and get a Masters of Art Degree in Secondary Education in 1969.

Art always appealed to Don. When he was younger he would color; he just never put down the crayons-to this day. Throughout his life, Don always expressed his feelings and creativity through many different mediums, like clay, wood, paint, and many others. Today, Don and Carol live on a family farm and at the age of 83, Don is still painting, sculpting, and drawing his sacred art. Art is a very big part of his life and he wouldn't change it for anything else.

Besides being an accomplished artist, Don claims the proudest moments in his life were when he was elected president for the Nevada Elementary Principals Association, and the day his wife, Carol Collins, married him.

Don's talents are a true gift to the art lovers and community members he has touched in his life.



Veteran Donald Collins

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- April 1 National Honor Society Applications Due
- 7-23 April: Spring ISAT Testing (Grades 6 - 8, 11)
- 10 April: Teacher Professional Development Day
- April 11 Prom
- 14 April: Idaho Shakespeare Festival performs at Rimrock
- 15 April: Senior Project Presentations and NHS Induction Ceremony

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